

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

Testimony of
Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawaii

Before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

Thursday, March 16, 2023
12:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

In consideration of
Governor's Message No. 505

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism:

I respectfully request your favorable consideration of Governor's Message No. 505, appointment of Chris Sadayasu to serve as Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Chris has over 20 years of longstanding service in state government and his experiences working with the public and private sectors and others in the community are extensive. These years of service have enabled him to garner solid leadership, collaboration, and decision-making skills that are necessary to take the helm at the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. Chris earlier served as the Charities Program Administrator at the Department of the Attorney General where he oversaw over 8,400 registered charitable organizations in the State. His emphasis on building strong working relationships and partnerships embodies a team culture that is collaborative and accountable.

Chris also served as the Tourism Brand Manager of the Hawaii Tourism Authority; Asset Management Administrator of the Office of Strategic Development, City & County of Honolulu; Asset Manager at the Hawaii Community Development Authority; Development Manager at the Aloha Tower Development Corporation; and Housing Development Specialist at the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

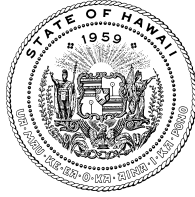
Testimony of Office of the Governor
Governor's Message No. 505
March 16, 2023
Page 2

These far-ranging experiences further honed Chris's leadership and collaboration skills that have led him to cultivate a solid understanding and capability of leading statewide business and economic development activities, energy development and management, and other areas under the purview of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. Chris's background in law and his diverse work experiences will be advantageous in meeting the responsibilities of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, particularly as they relate to procurement and contracting.

Chris earned a Juris Doctor from the University of Hawaii at Manoa William S. Richardson School of Law and Bachelor of Arts degree in economics - accounting from Claremont McKenna College.

I am confident that Chris Sadayasu's commitment to the job and his ability and experiences to carry out the duties of the position will enable him to serve the State and community well as Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Mahalo for your consideration.



LATE

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

Testimony of **Nani Medeiros**
Chief Housing Officer, Office of the Governor

Before the
Senate Committee Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Tuesday, March 16, 2023
12:30 p.m.
Conference Room 229

In consideration of
GM 505
Gubernatorial Nominee Chris Sadayasu
Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the committee.

I testify in strong support of Governors Message 505, submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee Chris Sadayasu.

I have known Chris for seventeen years, and this is the second time I have the pleasure and opportunity to work with him. During the time I've had working with Chris Sadayasu under Kia'āna Green's administration, he has been a true partner and collaborator. The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is an essential partner when it comes to addressing our housing crisis. The department houses nine attached agencies and offices that are directly and indirectly involved in housing production, planning, and costs. Chris's experience in housing development, asset management, and strategic planning makes him the ideal director to maximize and leverage the tools in the Department to positively impact our housing priorities.

Please advise and consent to the confirmation of Chris Sadayasu.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKĀ'I

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

CHRIS J. SADAYASU
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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Statement of
DANE K. WICKER
Deputy Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM**

Thursday, March 16, 2023
12:30PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of
GM505
**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR,
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHRIS SADAYASU, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT
NOON ON 12-07-2026.**

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee.

I **strongly support** GM505, submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026.

Since I have been working closely with Director Sadayasu, I have seen tremendous collaborations being initiated and/or continued. He has been involved with numerous projects, from the Hydrogen Hub with the Hawai'i State Energy Office to Sister-State Meetings with the Business Development and Support Division, as well as the Destination Stewardship and Brand Marketing RFPs with the Hawai'i Tourism Authority and the redevelopment of the Aloha Stadium.

In his short time in office, he has built strong rapport with our Department, other State agencies, our private sector partners, and the community. He has even met and established relationships with our overseas offices and leaders from Japan prefectures. He also attends Board meetings to stay involved and up to date with

Testimony of Dane K. Wicker

GM505

March 16, 2023

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Hawai'i Housing Finance Development Corporation, Hawai'i Tourism Authority, Stadium Authority and Hawaii Green Infrastructure.

Director Sadayasu shows robust leadership with his ability to effectively communicate with a magnitude of personalities and has proven to be very trustworthy and accountable for his actions. We work well together and I love

I strongly believe that Director Sadayasu has the skillset and knowledge to continue his responsibilities successfully. We will work well with each other with achieving our goals accomplishing our Department's mission.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Ke'ena Kuleana Ho'okipa O'Hawai'i
Hawai'i Convention Center
1801 Kalākaua Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815
kelepona tel 808 973 2255
kelepa'i fax 808 973 2253
kahua pa'a web hawaii tourismauthority.org

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor

John De Fries
President and Chief Executive Officer

Statement of
JOHN DE FRIES
Hawai'i Tourism Authority
before the
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Thursday, March 16, 2023
12:30 P.M.
State Capitol Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

In consideration of
GOV. MESSAGE NO. 505
NOMINATION OF CHRIS SADAYASU, DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism,

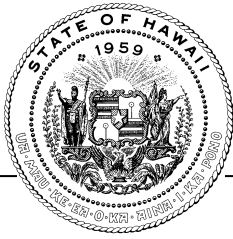
Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of the confirmation of Chris Sadayasu as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority has valued a productive working relationship with Mr. Sadayasu since he took on the director role in December 2022. Mr. Sadayasu has a long history of public service, including five years with HTA as Brand Manager. His history with HTA, with DBEDT, and in government gives him a breadth of experience to draw from in his work as director.

In the first 100 days of his appointment as Director, Mr. Sadayasu has brought increased focus and a renewed sense of enthusiasm to the entire DBEDT management team. Under his leadership, the daunting task of diversifying Hawai'i's economy beyond tourism is a challenge that he has demonstrated he is prepared to undertake.

We support this next step in his career of public service, and appreciate this opportunity to express that support before this committee.

Mahalo.



**STATE OF HAWAI'I
OFFICE OF PLANNING
& SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN
DIRECTOR

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
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Statement of
SCOTT GLENN, Director

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
Thursday, March 16, 2023, 12:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of
GM 505

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026.

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of the appointment of Chris Sadayasu to serve as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT).

Mr. Sadayasu brings extensive experience to DBEDT having worked in or with a majority of the divisions and attached agencies. Prior to his position as the Charities Program Administrator at the Department of the Attorney General, he served as the Tourism Brand Manager at the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, Asset Manager at the Hawai'i Community Development Authority, Development Manager at the Aloha Tower Development Corporation, and Housing Development Specialist at the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation. He understands how DBEDT as a whole and each of the programs is integral to the present and long-term success of Hawai'i.

Since starting as the Governor's nominee for Director, Mr. Sadayasu energizes DBEDT. He tirelessly inspires the programs to rise to higher levels through his vision for Hawai'i, his focus to help people every day, and his passion for getting the job done right. He is willing to make decisions and follows through, while also listening to feedback and adjusting. Hawai'i's greatest global competitive advantage is our aloha. Mr. Sadayasu demonstrates this every day through his actions.

For these reasons, I humbly ask for Mr. Sadayasu's confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



JAMES J. NAKATANI
Executive Director

STATE OF HAWAII
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

235 S. Beretania Street, Room 205
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: (808) 586-0186 Fax: (808) 586-0189

TESTIMONY OF JAMES J. NAKATANI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Thursday, March 16, 2023
12:30 PM
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

**GM 505 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director,
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism,
Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU, for a term to expire 12-07-2026**

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and Members of the Committee:

The Agribusiness Development Corporation (“ADC”) **supports** GM 505, relating to the consideration and confirmation of Mr. Chris Sadayasu’s appointment as Deputy Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

I am pleased to have this opportunity to express my strong support for Chris Sadayasu as the Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. During the past few months Mr. Sadayasu has promoted collaboration within DBEDT and encouraged the same cooperative spirit with external resources. He has shown he has the leadership skills to work

with the numerous attached agencies and the four core programs that makeup DBEDT.

I look forward to working together and respectfully ask the committee recommend Chris Sadayasu's confirmation as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKA'I

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT DIVISION

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

CHRIS J. SADAYASU
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

DENNIS T. LING
ADMINISTRATOR

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**Testimony of
Dennis Ling, Administrator**
Business Development & Support Division
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism
March 16, 2023, 12:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
in consideration of
GM No. 505
Confirmation of Director,
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism,
Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU

It is a pleasure and an honor to submit this testimony in strong support of the nomination of Chris Sadayasu as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.

I have known Chris personally and professionally for over 20 years and he has always shown himself to be bright, energetic, and enthusiastic. He brings with him a strong background of experience and work related to DBEDT having been employed in various agencies of the Department. He has excellent planning and organizing skills as demonstrated by this adept leadership in executing various projects and programs at the Hawaii Tourism Authority, Honolulu County Office of Strategic Development, Hawaii Community Development Authority, Aloha Tower Development Corp. and the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corp. His legal experience at the Department of the Attorney General will also serve the Department well.

Economic development is so important to the State's continued vitality, growth and prosperity. As the Department balances various needs throughout

the State, it must be strategic in planning initiatives and projects. Chris brings to the Department valuable insight to formulating priorities, policies and strategies, and the resolve to implement major projects. He knows how to bring people together to get results and make positive things happen.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKA'I

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

CHRIS J. SADAYASU
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Testimony of
Maria Lucia L. Pascual
Administrative Services Officer
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism

March 16, 2023, 1:00pm
State Capitol, Conference Room #230
In consideration of

GM No. 505
Confirmation of Director,
Department of Business and Economic Development and Tourism
Gubernatorial Nominee, Chris J. Sadayasu

I am writing to express my strong support of GM No. 505 for Chris Sadayasu's nomination to serve as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT).

I have been the Administrative Services Officer for DBEDT since January 13, 2023.

Within just the couple of months that I have known Mr. Sadayasu and working closely with him, I could see that he is a very empowering leader and can unite the ten (10) attached agencies and four (4) core programs of DBEDT with various types of industries (which I would usually call a "chop suey" of attached agencies) and consisting of employees with diverse culture. Moreover, his aloha spirit can boost employees' morale, self-esteem, happiness, and productivity at work, leading to a successful Department.

For these and other reasons, I strongly urge his confirmation as DBEDT Director.

Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Maria Lucia L. Pascual



**HAWAI'I COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

547 Queen Street, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Telephone: (808) 594-0300 Fax: (808) 587-0299
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JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

CHASON ISHII
CHAIRPERSON

CRAIG K. NAKAMOTO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Statement of
Craig K. Nakamoto, Executive Director
Hawai'i Community Development Authority

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Thursday, March 16, 2023
12:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

In consideration, of
GM 505

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026.

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the Committee.

The Hawai'i Community Development Authority (HCDA) **supports GM 505**, that considers for confirmation Chris Sadayasu as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT).

Chris Sadayasu is very familiar with HCDA having worked as both the HCDA Compliance Assurance and Community Outreach Officer and HCDA Asset Manager. As the DBEDT director nominee, his experience and understanding of HCDA have been an asset and he has been very supportive of our work.

We look forward to continued collaboration on Hawai'i's growth and resiliency.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

HAWAII GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY

GWEN S. YAMAMOTO LAU
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, Suite 501, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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**Testimony of
Gwen Yamamoto Lau
Executive Director
Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority**
before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism
March 16, 2023, 12:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
in consideration of
GM No. 505
**Confirmation of Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism,
Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU**

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and Members of the Energy, Economic Development and Tourism Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of Governor's Message 505, for Gubernatorial Nominee Chris Sadayasu, as Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT).

With over seventeen years of economic development, project development and finance experience as a team member of attached agencies, coupled with a sound legal foundation, Chris is well suited to lead DBEDT, the State's economic engine, as Hawaii rebounds from the pandemic.

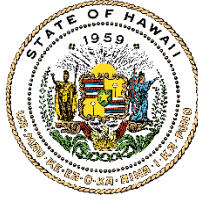
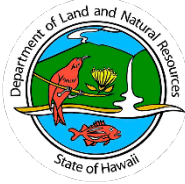
A servant leader, over the last 3-1/2 months since being in his position, in addition to instilling a strategic and team-centric focus within the department, Chris has demonstrated his willingness to advocate for and support departments and agencies in moving the needle to diversify and expand our economy. However, Chris has also demonstrated his ability to "make hard decisions," such as bringing all employees back into the office, to increase productivity and efficiencies and better serve the public.

By statute, the Director of DBEDT serves as Chair for the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority's ("Authority") five-member board. With 95% of Hawaii's ratepayers experiencing, on average, a whopping 30% increase in their electric utility costs over the past year, the Authority looks forward to Chris' strategic leadership, technical expertise and support to lower the energy burden for Hawaii's underserved ratepayers, while delivering tangible economic development and environmental impacts, including jobs created/retained, state tax revenues generated, economic multiplier impacts, petroleum displaced and greenhouse gas avoided.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and offer support and comments for Governor's Message 505.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



**STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA**

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

LAURA H.E. KAAKUA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES
ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of
DAWN N. S. CHANG
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM**

**Thursday, March 16, 2023
12:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 505
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR,
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHRIS SADAYASU, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-
2026**

Governor's Message 505 proposes to confirm as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, Chris Sadayasu, for a term to expire 12-07-2026. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure.**

The Department recognizes the remarkable contribution of Mr. Chris Sadayasu to the state of Hawai'i, most recently serving as Charities Program Administrator at the Department of the Attorney General, and previously as Tourism Brand Manager with the Hawaii Tourism Authority. In these roles, Mr. Sadayasu managed staff teams and contracts, gained valuable experience with administrative procedures, and developed wide-ranging expertise from the nonprofit to tourism sector.

Mr. Sadayasu's leadership track record, collaborative nature, and numerous relationships with various sectors make him an ideal candidate for the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 505.

JOSH GREEN, M. D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR
KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



BRENN A H. HASHIMOTO
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

RYAN YAMANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMŌHALA LIMAHANA
235 S. BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813-2437

Statement of
BRENN A H. HASHIMOTO
Director, Department of Human Resources Development

Before the
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
AND TOURISM**

Thursday, March 16, 2023
12:30PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of
GM505 Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, **CHRIS SADAYASU** for a term to expire 12-07-2026

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and the members of the committee.

We strongly support the appointment of Chris Sadayasu to the position of Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT).

Given Mr. Sadayasu's past leadership roles with the Hawaii Tourism Authority, the Department of the Attorney General, the City and County of Honolulu, and the Hawaii Community Development Authority, he has the requisite knowledge and experience to successfully lead DBEDT.

Since taking office in December 2022, Mr. Sadayasu has demonstrated a willingness to tackle difficult issues, to listen, and to collaborate. DHRD looks forward partnering with him and the DBEDT leadership to fully realize Governor Green's vision for the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



Written Statement of
Len Higashi
Executive Director
Hawaii Technology Development Corporation
before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism

Thursday, March 16, 2023
12:30 p.m.
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

In consideration of
GM505
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026.

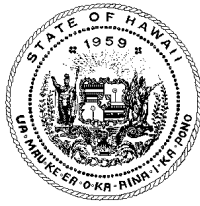
Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to **support** the confirmation of Chris Sadayasu as the Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. I have known Mr. Sadayasu for over 8 years and have been working closely with him in his current role as DBEDT Director.

Mr. Sadayasu brings to DBEDT a positive, no-nonsense attitude and has been working tirelessly to strengthen the Department since stepping into the new role. Mr. Sadayasu has taken all challenges of the job head on. Despite his busy schedule, Mr. Sadayasu has made it a priority to learn about Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) programs and support HTDC events. Mr. Sadayasu's exuberance is infectious and I am confident that he will lead the Department to success.

I look forward to working together in the years to come. Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments and I encourage your favorable vote on his behalf.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Ka 'Oihana Ho'opalekana Lehulehu
1177 Alakea Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

TOMMY JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

Melanie Martin
Deputy Director
Administration

Michael J. Hoffman
Acting Deputy Director
Corrections

William F. Oku
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR MESSAGE NO. 505
RELATING TO THE NOMINATION OF CHRIS SADAYASU
TO BE THE DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

By

Tommy Johnson, Director

Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and
Tourism

Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

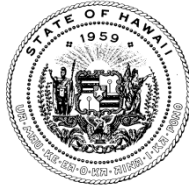
Thursday, March 16, 2023; 12:30 p.m.
CR 229 & Via Video Conference

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I submit this testimony in support of the nomination and confirmation of Chris Sadayasu as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DEBT). Mr. Sadayasu's diverse work background in both the private and government sectors includes working as an Attorney, various professional positions within government of increasing duties, responsibilities, and complexity. In addition to his work as an Attorney, he has worked as a Housing Development Specialist, Compliance Assurance Officer, Asset Manager and Asset Administrator, Tourism Brand Manager, Charities Program Manager, and now as the Director of DBEDT.

Mr. Sadayasu's vast experience in several fields of government work coupled with his knowledge of the operations of the DBEDT, make him uniquely qualified to serve as the Director.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 505 and the confirmation of Mr. Sadayasu.



TESTIMONY BY:
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
DREANALEE K. KALILI
TAMMY L. LEE
ROBIN K. SHISHIDO
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

Thursday, March 16, 2023
12:30 P.M.
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference
State Capitol

In consideration of
Governor's Message 505
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business,
Economic Development & Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, Chris Sadayasu

Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the confirmation of Chris Sadayasu as the Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT).

Mr. Sadayasu received his Juris Doctor from the from the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and his Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Claremont McKenna College.

Mr. Sadayasu has spent numerous years in public service and held various leadership positions that include the Charities Program Administrator at the Department of the Attorney General, Tourism Brand Manager with the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, Asset Management Administrator for the City and County of Honolulu to name a few.

The DOT believes that Mr. Sadayasu's extensive background in economic development makes him an ideal candidate to lead DBEDT as Director.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

WILLIAM G. KUNSTMAN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
KA 'OIHANA PONO LIMAHANA

March 16, 2023

To: The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Chair
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development,
and Tourism

Date: Thursday, March 16, 2023

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 229 & Videoconference, State Capitol

From: Jade T. Butay, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: GM 505; Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026.

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations **strongly supports** the confirmation of Chris Sadayasu as Director to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

Mr. Sadayasu possesses the knowledge and experience to lead DBEDT. He is an attorney with an accounting background with over 17 years of experience serving in roles overseeing business, economic development, and tourism activities.

Mr. Sadayasu has served as the Tourism Brand Manager at the Hawaii Tourism Authority, Asset Management Administrator for the City & County of Honolulu, Asset Manager at the Hawaii Community Development Authority, Development Manager at Aloha Tower Development Corporation, and as a Housing Development Specialist at the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation. Most recently, Mr. Sadayasu served as the Charities Program Administrator at the Department of the Attorney General where he oversaw over 8,400 registered charitable organizations, professional solicitors, fundraising counsels, and their activities statewide.

The DLIR believes Mr. Sadayasu to be an effective leader, communicator and coordinator who is determined to enhance Hawaii's economic prosperity through innovation, diversification and global competitiveness while preserving our quality of life.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 505.



Ka Moku'aina 'O Hawai'i Aha Moku O Pae'Aina

State of Hawai'i Aha Moku

P. O. Box 621

Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

Testimony of the Hawaii State Aha Moku
Before the Senate Committee on
Energy, Economic Development and Tourism
Thursday, March 16, 2023
12:30 PM

Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

IN SUPPORT of GM 505 – CHRIS SADAYASU

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) Gubernatorial Nominee, Chris Sadayasu, for a term to expire at noon on December 07, 2026.

The Hawaii State Aha Moku (Aha Moku) supports this Gubernatorial Nominee.

Based on his extensive experience in government policymaking, legislature, tax charities, strategic development and tourism in the State of Hawaii, Aha Moku supports Chris Sadayasu as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.

Aha Moku brings forth the voices of the generational and traditional native Hawaiians of the eight islands of the Pae'Aina, the natural and cultural resources of Hawaii Nei. The health of the natural resources is intertwined with the health of the indigenous host culture – the Native Hawaiian. This must be assured by the strategic development of our economic growth and how tourism plays a part in this state strategy. All depend on the sustainability of the natural and cultural resources. We believe that Mr. Sadayasu will safely ensure the sustainability of the natural and cultural resources of Hawaii through careful planning that is fair and perpetual.

Thank you for the opportunity to sharing our mana'ō with you. We support Mr. Sadayasu's nomination as the Chairperson of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.

Respectfully,

Rocky Kaluhiwa, Po'o O Kakuhihewa

Hawaii State Aha Moku

808-286-7955

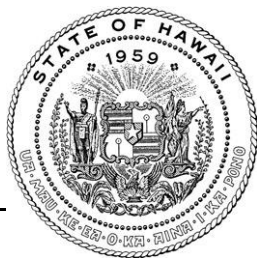
Rockykaluhiwa1122@gmail.com

Leimana DaMate, Luna Alaka'i/Executive Director

Hawaii State Aha Moku

808-640-1214

leimana.k.damate@hawaii.gov



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKĀ'I

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

CHRIS J. SADAYASU
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: dbedt.hawaii.gov

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
Georja Skinner, Division Chief,
Creative Industries Division,
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
Senate Committee Energy, Economic Development and Tourism
Thursday, March 16, 2023
Time 12:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

In consideration of
GM 505.

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Committee.

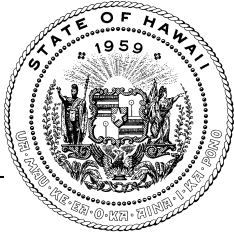
I am writing in strong support of Chris J. Sadaysu, Governor Green's nominee as Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT).

As the Division Chief for Creative Industries DBEDT, I have had the opportunity to experience first-hand Chris' current and past work ethic, including a strong commitment to community and collaboration – from his time at ADC to his current role as lead for our department.

His background in state and county government, law and community-based development is key in executing Governor's economic development and housing priorities. Together with Deputy Director nominee Dane K. Wicker, this is the right team at this time in DBEDT's evolution.

Having served under 4 prior Director's, I am confident Chris will continue to bring his collaborative mindset with a deep commitment to service to his role as Director of DBEDT.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

MARK B. GLICK
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-3807
Web: energy.hawaii.gov

Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

March 16, 2023
12:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

In SUPPORT of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 505, CHRIS SADAYASU

**AS DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM**

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee, I am writing in support of the appointment of Mr. Chris Sadayasu to serve as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

Throughout his career in state government, Mr. Sadayasu has proven himself as a dedicated and energetic leader. Mr. Sadayasu's vision for the future of our state is fully aligned with that of Governor Green, as is his timely and appropriate focus on collaboration among state agencies to achieve the Administration's economic development goals. His ability to inspire and motivate others is matched only by his unwavering commitment to delivering results, as we have recently seen in his support of the Administration's affordable housing, Aloha Stadium and the Hawaii Pacific H2Hub initiatives.

I have enjoyed working with Mr. Sadayasu and offer my endorsement of Mr. Sadayasu for the position of Director of DBEDT. He certainly has the experience, skills, and character needed to serve our state with distinction. I urge you to confirm his nomination without hesitation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



NATURAL ENERGY LABORATORY OF HAWAII AUTHORITY

An Authority of the State of Hawaii attached to the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism

Statement of
Gregory P. Barbour
Executive Director
Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority
before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Thursday, March 16, 2023
12:30 pm
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

in consideration of

GM 505 RELATING TO THE CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION OF CHRIS SADAYASU AS DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

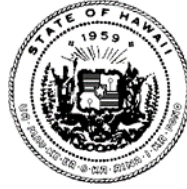
I am pleased to provide testimony in strong support of Mr. Chris Sadayasu for the position of Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT).

I have worked very closely with Mr. Sadayasu over the past several months in his position as Director of DBEDT. I can honestly say that Mr. Sadayasu is a “breath of fresh air” as DBEDT Director and has demonstrated a very good understanding of the fundamentals necessary for economic development. He has shown “great enthusiasm” in his first couple of months to re-build the DBEDT “Team” and develop a culture of working together to grow jobs, raise incomes and cultivate innovation. I have found his approach both “inspirational and invigorating”.

As the leader of the State's economic development efforts, Mr. Sadayasu has also shown a keen ability to listen to DBEDT managers and importantly all the players – the private sector, the Counties, the Legislature, and other State agencies – in persuading everyone to work towards common goals to grow our economy. In this regard, I believe his “we can't do it alone” attitude is exactly what is needed in providing leadership and team building at DBEDT at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



CATHY BETTS
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

JOSEPH CAMPOS II
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
KA 'OIHANA MĀLAMA LAWELAWE KANAKA
Office of the Director
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 15, 2023

TO: The Honorable Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
The Honorable Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director
Joseph Campos II, Deputy Director

SUBJECT: **Testimony in Support**
G.M. 505, Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the
Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, Tourism,
Chris Sadayasu

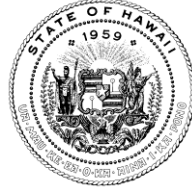
Hearing: March 16, 2023 at 12:30 pm
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

We, Cathy Betts and Joseph Campos II, serve as the Director and Deputy Director of the Department of Human Services. We are testifying in **SUPPORT** of Governor's Message 505, Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, Tourism (DBEDT), Chris Sadayasu.

Mr. Sadayasu has extensive experience in serving state and local government throughout his 20 plus years of private and public service. Since 2001 he has direct experience in Hawai'i's public service sector working at the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation, Hawai'i Community Development Authority, City & County of Honolulu – Office of Strategic Development, Hawai'i Tourism Authority, and Department of the Attorney General – Tax & Charities Division. His unique background and experience in a variety of functions that fall under DBEDT are assets that will serve him well as the DBEDT Director.

Mr. Sadayasu, as evidenced by the last three months, will undoubtedly help lead DBEDT and the important programs that fall under the Department in a way that will be responsive to the needs of the people of Hawai'i.

Thank you for allowing us to testify in **SUPPORT** of Governor's Message 505 and Mr. Sadayasu.



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

NADINE Y. ANDO
DIRECTOR | KA LUNA HO'OKELE

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA
SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

DEAN I HAZAMA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR | KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

KA 'OIHANA PILI KĀLEPA
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. BOX 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: (808) 586-2850
Fax Number: (808) 586-2856
cca.hawaii.gov

March 15, 2023

To: The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Chair,
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair,
Members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and
Tourism

Date: Thursday, March 16, 2023

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 229 & Via Videoconference

From: Nadine Ando

**Re: G.M. 505, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS
THE DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHRIS
SADAYASU, FOR TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026.**

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I write in strong support of the confirmation of Chris Sadayasu as Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. Nominee Sadayasu's extensive and long work history with the State and City & County of Honolulu departments makes him eminently qualified to lead the Department.

In particular, Nominee Sadayasu's background with the Hawaii Tourism Authority as its Tourism Brand Manager for over five years makes him well-versed on the marketing strategies that will help to grow the business and economic development goals of the State that are dependent on tourism. He also brings his experience at HCDA and HHFDC in property management and

multi-million dollar development agreements that will serve him well in negotiating and overseeing contractual agreements that fall under the broad scope of DBEDT.

In sum, Nominee Sadayasu brings his legal background, extensive work in strategic planning and strong administrative experience to lead DBEDT at a time where critical, high profile projects fall under the auspices of DBEDT. I wholeheartedly support his nomination to this position and have full confidence that he will succeed if confirmed.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND TOURISM**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2023
12:30 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM 229 & VIDEOCONFERENCE**

GOVERNORS MESSAGE NO. 505

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Chairperson DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and Members of the Committee:

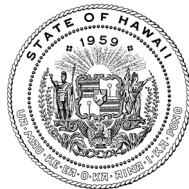
Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Gubernatorial Nominee, Chris Sadayasu, as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT). Chris has experience with business, economic development *and* tourism, having served in positions in law, housing, finance, development, compliance, brand management, tax and brings with him a Juris Doctorate and BA in Economics. He is qualified in every area of his nomination to DBEDT Director. Chris is personable, approachable and professional, which enhances his status as being the right person for the position.

Respectfully requesting your vote to confirm Chris Sadayasu's nomination to serve as the Director, DBEDT.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kāla
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BY
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 505

March 16, 2023
12:30 p.m.
Room 229 & Videoconference

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR,
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHRIS SADAYASU, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON
ON 12-07-2026.

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support the appointment of Chris Sadayasu to the position of Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT). I am working with Mr. Sadayasu in my professional capacity as Director of Finance.

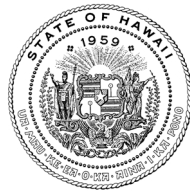
Governor Green's administration shares his priorities of homelessness and housing, the cost of living, climate change, and health care for the people of Hawai'i. We are committed to take action to make the needed changes to move Hawai'i forward.

Mr. Sadayasu is an integral part of a team that is dedicated to achieving the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner.

Mr. Sadayasu has been serving as the Director at DBEDT since December 2022. Prior to that, he was the Charities Program Administrator at the Department of the Attorney General from 2021 – 2022; he has also worked at several attached agencies under DBEDT including the Hawai'i Tourism Authority from 2016 - 2021, Hawai'i Community Development Authority from 2010 - 2014, Aloha Tower Development Corporation from 2008 - 2010, and the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation from 2001 – 2008. He was also the Asset Management Administrator with the City Office of Strategic Development from 2014 – 2016. His extensive work experience with DBEDT will benefit the department and the State; therefore, I support his confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BY
SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 505

March 16, 2023
12:30 p.m.
Room 229 & Videoconference

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR,
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHRIS SADAYASU, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE AT NOON
ON 12-07-2026.

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support the appointment of Chris Sadayasu to the position of Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT). I am working with Mr. Sadayasu in my professional capacity as Deputy Director of Finance.

Governor Green's administration shares his priorities of homelessness and housing, the cost of living, climate change, and health care for the people of Hawai'i. We are committed to take action to make the needed changes to move Hawai'i forward.

Mr. Sadayasu is an integral part of a team that is dedicated to achieving the goals of this administration in an honest, transparent, accountable, and responsive manner.

Mr. Sadayasu has been serving as the Director at DBEDT since December 2022. Prior to that, he was the Charities Program Administrator at the Department of the Attorney General from 2021-2022; he has also worked at several attached agencies under DBEDT including the Hawai'i Tourism Authority from 2016-2021, Hawai'i Community Development Authority from 2010-2014, Aloha Tower Development Corporation from 2008-2010, and the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation from 2001-2008. He was also the Asset Management Administrator with the City Office of Strategic Development from 2014-2016. His extensive work experience with DBEDT will benefit the department and the State; therefore, I support his confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

CHRIS J. SADAYASU
DIRECTOR, DBEDT



An Agency of the State of Hawaii
March 16, 2023

BRENNON MORIOKA
VICE CHAIRMAN, STADIUM AUTHORITY

RYAN G. ANDREWS
STADIUM MANAGER

RUSSELL UCHIDA
DEPUTY STADIUM MANAGER

TESTIMONY
OF
RYAN G. ANDREWS, STADIUM MANAGER
STADIUM AUTHORITY
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
March 16, 2023, 12:30 P.M.
Conference Room 229 & by video conference

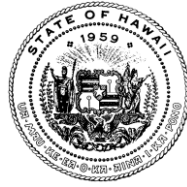
G.M. 505

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the appointment of Mr. Chris Sadayasu to the position of Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

Mr. Sadayasu brings experience to the State of Hawaii holding positions in various programs within DBEDT including, the Hawaii Tourism Authority, Hawaii Community Development Authority, and the Hawaii Housing Development Corporation. Mr. Sadayasu's legal education and skillset includes experience working as an Administrator at the State of Hawaii's Department of the Attorney General. He also holds a Juris Doctor degree from the William S. Richardson School of Law as well as being a member of the Hawaii State Bar Association.

Collectively, Mr. Sadayasu's experience, knowledge, educational background, and credentials will be beneficial to Hawaii by ensuring that DBEDT remains committed to a state-wide and comprehensive economic development strategy that will drive economic resilience and prosperity for the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in support of Mr. Sadayasu.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
P. O. BOX 3378
HONOLULU, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

WRITTEN
TESTIMONY
ONLY

In reply, please refer to:
File:

Testimony in SUPPORT of GM505
Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026.

SENATOR LYNN DECOITE, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Hearing Date: 3/16/2023

Room Number: 229

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** N/A.
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports the nomination of Chris
- 3 Sadayasu for Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
- 4 (DBEDT).
- 5
- 6 Mr. Sadayashu's professional accomplishments are well-suited for DBEDT and his career
- 7 starting in public service as a program specialist and working his way up attests to his managerial
- 8 and leadership qualities. His experience with housing development, tourism branding, and
- 9 compliance are a strong match for Gov. Green's strategic objectives.
- 10
- 11 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.
- 12
- 13 **Offered Amendments:** None

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



DOUGLAS MURDOCK
CHIEF INFORMATION
OFFICER

OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HI 96810-0119
Ph: (808) 586-6000 | Fax: (808) 586-1922
ETS.HAWAII.GOV

Testimony of
DOUGLAS MURDOCK
Chief Information Officer
Enterprise Technology Services

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
Thursday, March 16, 2023

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 505
NOMINATION OF CHRIS SADAYASU, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM (DBEDT)

Dear Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the committee:

I am writing in support of Governor Josh Green's nomination of Chris Sadayasu as Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT).

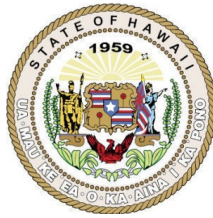
Mr. Sadayasu has more than 17 years of experience in economic development at DBEDT and in the department's various attached agencies. He also served as the Tourism Brand Manager at the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, Asset Management Administrator for the City & County of Honolulu, and Development Manager at Aloha Tower Development Corporation.

Most recently, Mr. Sadayasu served the Charities Program Administrator at the Department of Attorney General, overseeing charitable organizations, professional solicitors and fundraising counsels statewide.

Mr. Sadayasu has demonstrated that he is a distinguished leader, collaborator and exceptional communicator committed to economic diversification in our state and I gladly support his confirmation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



JORDAN LOWE
DIRECTOR

Michael S. Vincent
Deputy Director
Administration

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
Ka 'Oihana Ho'opalekana Lehulehu
1177 Alakea Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

VACANT
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR MESSAGE NO. 505
RELATING TO THE NOMINATION OF CHRIS SADAYASU
TO BE THE DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &
TOURISM

By
Jordan Lowe, Director

Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and
Tourism
Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 16, 2023; 12:30 p.m.
CR 229 & Via Video Conference

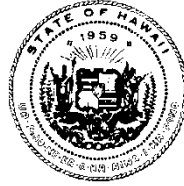
Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I submit this testimony in support of the nomination and confirmation of Chris Sadayasu as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DEBT). Mr. Sadayasu's extensive work experience in various background in both the private and government sectors includes working as an Attorney, various professional positions within government of increasing duties, responsibilities, and complexity. In addition to his work as an Attorney, he has worked as a Housing Development Specialist, Compliance Assurance Officer, Asset Manager and Asset Administrator, Tourism Brand Manager, Charities Program Manager, and now as the Director of DBEDT.

Mr. Sadayasu's experience in several fields of government work coupled with his knowledge of the operations of the DBEDT, make him highly qualified to successfully serve as the Director.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 505 and the confirmation of Mr. Sadayasu.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 17907
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO:

Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi, Executive Director
Hawaii Public Housing Authority

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Thursday, March 16, 2023
12:30 p.m.
Room 229, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
GM 505

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHRIS SADAYASU, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026.

Honorable Chair Decoite, and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of GM 505, to consider and confirm Chris Sadayasu to the position of Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

It is truly my honor and privilege to be working alongside with him and there is no doubt in my mind that he will continue to bring a fresh perspective on how to deliver services, improve the experience of those we serve, and strive to maximize taxpayer dollars efficiently and effectively.

The HPHA urges the Committee to pass GM 505 and confirm Chris Sadayasu to the position of Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

JOSH GREEN M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

Ka 'Oihana 'Auhau
P.O. BOX 259

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
PHONE NO: (808) 587-1540
FAX NO: (808) 587-1560

GARY S. SUGANUMA
DIRECTOR

KRISTEN M.R. SAKAMOTO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**TESTIMONY OF
KRISTEN M.R. SAKAMOTO, DEPUTY DIRECTOR**

TESTIMONY ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

In consideration of G.M. No. 505

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, gubernatorial nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU

BEFORE THE:

Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

DATE: Thursday, March 16, 2023
TIME: 12:30 p.m.
LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 229

Chair DeCoite, Vice-Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of the appointment of Chris Sadayasu as Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT). I have had the opportunity to work with Mr. Sadayasu in his role as Director of DBEDT and have observed his strong work ethic and dedication to public service.

Mr. Sadayasu has extensive experience in government administration and management and has been a great partner to work with on matters concerning both of our departments.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 505.

**Written Testimony of
Sandra Fujiyama
Executive Director
Pacific Asian Center for Entrepreneurship
before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism**

March 16, 2023, 12:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

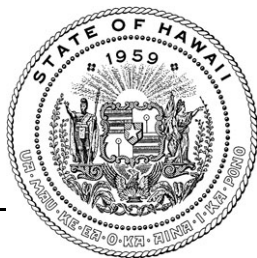
In consideration of
GM No. 505
Confirmation of Director,
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism,
Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and Members of the Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Governor's Message 505 for Gubernatorial Nominee Chris Sadayasu, as Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

With more than 15 years of experience in economic development, including his work in various attached agencies of DBEDT in the areas of affordable housing, community development and tourism, Chris brings a wealth of knowledge and insight to DBEDT and its attached agencies. Additionally, having interacted with Chris, he effectively navigates complex issues, employs logic and creative and innovative reasoning to look for resolutions, and takes a cooperative and collaborative approach to his work. These qualities will serve him well as he carries out the administration's initiatives for the State and leads DBEDT's efforts to support the growth, diversification, and resiliency of Hawaii's economy.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer support and comments for GM 505.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMŌHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI
A HO'OMĀKA'IKA'I

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

CHRIS J. SADAYASU
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

FOREIGN-TRADE ZONE NO. 9
521 ALA MOANA BLVD., SUITE 101 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
Web site: www.ftz9.org

Telephone: (808) 586-2507
Fax: (808) 586-2512
E-mail: administrator@ftz9.org

**Statement of
DAVID SIKKINK, Administrator
Foreign-Trade Zone Division**

Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
Thursday, March 16, 2023, 12:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

**In Consideration of
Governor's Message 505**

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as Director, for the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, **CHRIS J. SADAYASU**, for the term to expire December 7, 2026.

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, Member of the Committee:

I submit this testimony in **SUPPORT** for the confirmation and appointment of **Chris J. Sadayasu** to serve as the Director of the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT).

Mr. Sadayasu has an extensive, twenty year resume as a public servant for Hawaii. In his many roles within the various agencies of DBEDT, Chris has shown his dedication and leadership to helping the people of Hawaii and growing the state's economic activity. He has applied knowledge of our housing crisis and understands the land, infrastructure, and development process, and can lead DBEDT in solving the critical issues facing our state. Mr. Sadayasu has also worked in other state and City and County departments which has given him an intimate knowledge, the skill set, and the resources to strategically solve those problems.

I believe Mr. Sadayasu is uniquely qualified and maintains the leadership ability to move the needle forward in critical areas of the state's economy.

Respectfully requesting your confirmation and appointment of **CHRIS J. SADAYASU** to serve as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.



GM-505

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 9:58:57 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nathaniel Kinney	Testifying for Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters	Support	In Person

Comments:

We would like to write in support of the nomination for Chris Sadayasu as the Director of DBEDT. Chris has experience in many different divisions of DBEDT, and we hope that he can bring that experience to bear in moving the Aloha stadium project forward and to help guide the Department to helping build more affordable housing.



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL UNION 1260 EMPOWERING THE PACIFIC

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM,

HEARING DATE: Thursday, March 16, 2023
TIME: 12:30 p.m.
PLACE: State Capitol
Conference Room 229

RE: Testimony in **SUPPORT** of Governor's Message 505

Aloha Honorable Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee;

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260 (IBEW 1260) and its Business Manager and Financial Secretary, Leroy Chincio, Jr. would like to offer the following testimony in support of Governor's Message 505 (GM 505).

IBEW 1260, is comprised of nearly 3,000 hardworking union members. Our members are a diverse workforce that largely consist of highly skilled and trained individuals working 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to generate and transmit electricity here in the State of Hawai'i and to ensure the reliability and availability of this precious resource.

IBEW 1260 supports GM505 which submits for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU, for a term to expire 12-07-2026, and believes that Mr. Sadayasu's practical work experience in various state and local agencies give him a well-rounded and comprehensive perspective that will assist him in not only effectively and efficiently managing and directing this very important Department, but fulfilling the goals and objectives of this administration.

It's with pleasure and confidence that IBEW 1260 stands in support of CHRIS SADAYASU for this nomination. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 3:31:44 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kekoa McClellan	Testifying for The American Hotel and Lodging Association	Support	In Person

Comments:



Imanaka Asato
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW COMPANY

March 14, 2023

Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Energy,
Economic Development & Tourism
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023

**RE: Governor's Message No. 505 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU, for a term to expire on 12-07-2026
Hearing date: March 16, 2023 at 12:30 pm**

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the committee,

My name is Michael Iosua and I am submitting testimony in **SUPPORT** of GM 505 for confirmation of Chris Sadayasu as Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism. DBEDT's mission is to create a diverse and globally competitive economy, and provide opportunities for Hawaii's citizens. Chris has nearly two decades of experience in economic development in Hawaii, having served in positions with HCDA, HTA and in strategic development for the City & County of Honolulu.

I had the opportunity to work with Chris during his time at HTA. In this position, Chris demonstrated a wealth of knowledge in strategic marketing, brand building and development of opportunities for sports in Hawaii. These qualities will be invaluable in supporting the growth, diversification, and resiliency of Hawaii's economy. Chris is also a person with great integrity and dedication to public service in Hawaii.

For these reasons I urge you to confirm Chris Sadayasu as Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. Mahalo for your consideration.

Mahalo,

Michael L. Iosua



Imanaka Asato
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW COMPANY

March 15, 2023

Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Energy,
Economic Development & Tourism

RE: Governor's Message No. 505
Hearing date: March 16, 2023 at 12:30 pm

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony in **SUPPORT** of GM 534 relating to the confirmation of Chris Sadayasu as Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. I have known Chris Sadayasu for nearly over twenty-five years now, having graduated in the same law school class at the William S. Richardson School of Law.

Chris has solid experience and understanding of government operations. He is a local boy board and raised in Hilo, with a very strong commitment to public service which is exemplified in his 20+ years of service to the state of Hawaii and City and County of Honolulu.

Prior to his current position, Chris served as the Charities Program Administrator for the Department of the Attorney General, the Tourism Brand Manager for the Hawaii Tourism Authority, as well as other critical roles within the Hawaii Community Development Authority and the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation. Indeed, a few of these roles were directly within the purview of DBEDT, providing Chris with institutional knowledge and insight for his current position.

Chris's past work experience demonstrates a deep desire to achieve success for the state. Most importantly, Chris is a person of high moral character and ethics. He is the type of leader that is critical to supporting state departments and will undoubtedly provide remarkable service to the Hawaii residents. For these reasons, I strongly urge you to confirm Chris Sadayasu as Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

Mahalo,

Kimberley W. Yoshimoto



Thursday, March 16, 2023, 12:30 pm

Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism
Conference Room 229, State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

Testimony of Jerry Gibson for Consideration and Confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee: Chris Sadayasu

Aloha Chair Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair Glenn Wakai and Committee Members,

Thank you for your time today as you proceed with the confirmation process in conjunction with the next four years of the Green Administration. The all important position of Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism Director for the State of Hawaii is one of the most important decisions you will make. This position impacts the economic viability of our State and helps put us on a track to fulfil the many important issues within Hawai'i.

Chris Sadayasu has a 14 year planning background working on large community projects to include City & County of Honolulu's Office of Strategic Development. Mr. Sadayasu has also gained experience on the Aloha Tower Development Corporation and Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation. All of this suits Chris well for his future assignment with the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

In addition to Chris' vast experience with large community projects his law degree for Hawaii's own William S. Richardson's School of Law will enhance his future decision process in his current role.

Hawai'i Hotel Alliance, the largest hotel association in Hawai'i endorses Chris Sadayasu as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism for the State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Gibson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jerry Gibson
President
Hawai'i Hotel Alliance

March 15, 2023

The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senate Committee on Energy,
Economic Development and Tourism
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 230
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Energy,
Economic Development and Tourism
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 407
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support of GM No. 505 for Chris J. Sadayasu's nomination to serve as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT).

My name is Paul Yonamine and I am the Chairman Emeritus of Central Pacific Bank. I was the CEO of the Bank until December of last year. I currently serve on four corporate boards and in the past, I was the CEO of IBM Japan and KPMG Consulting Asia Pacific.

I have not known Chris Sadayasu for very long but have been working with him very closely for the past three months at the request of Governor Josh Green. I am currently co-chairing the Hydrogen Hub proposal to the Department of Energy for federal funds made available through the Inflation Reduction Act. I am working with Chris and his team at DBEDT in creating an Accelerator program for local companies to better export their products to Japan. We are also strategizing on how to leverage Japanese IP and knowledge to help the state and other stakeholders improve future Transit-Oriented Development around the Honolulu Rail line and the passenger experience at Daniel K. Inouye International Airport.

I have found Chris to be easy to work with and passionate in doing great things for the state. He is a 24/7 kind of guy and always has a "can do" attitude. These are traits that I find enlightening and motivates me and other members in the private sector to help the State. He has shown tremendous leadership in our efforts in managing the hydrogen hub proposal process. We have over 30 private sector companies involved and we are managing this process through a steering committee that the both of us are involved in.

Chair Lynn DeCoite
Vice Chair Glenn Wakai
March 15, 2023
Page 2

DBEDT has many tasks at hand. We need someone who is visionary, positive and a collaborator. I think Chris has those traits and I would appreciate your consideration in confirming his nomination as our State's DBEDT Director.

Thank you very much for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me directly at (808) 544-3773 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Yonamine", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul Yonamine
Chairman Emeritus

cc: Chris J. Sadayasu, DBEDT

March 13, 2023

Attention: Selection Committee for Director of DBEDT

Dear Committee Members,

We have just become aware that the confirmation hearing for the Hawai'i State Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism candidate Chris Sadayasu has been scheduled for Thursday, March 16, 2023, along with the deputy director candidate as well. We are submitting testimony in support of this slate of candidates nominated by Governor Josh Green.

I've known Chris personally and professionally for nearly a decade and believe he has the right experience as well as economic development acumen to be an ideal fit for this critical state role. Chris is a hard-working professional who brings a positive attitude to his work environment, which typically yields a very collaborative approach that is needed as the leader of this department.

This candidate obviously possesses relevant tourism experience from his time at Hawai'i Tourism Authority as a global brand manager but also has a diverse background which is important as the state pivots from a reliance on the tourism industry to a more diversified tourism model embracing sports tourism, medical tourism, eco-tourism and other extensions of this core industry.

Chris is well-connected in many different industries here in the state but has broadened his network to include key relationships in the public sector as well, most notably in the legislature, along with his deputy director candidate. Being able to bridge the private and public sectors to identify opportunities for economic diversity and development will be critical for the future of the state economy, and we believe Chris' leadership skills are the right fit for this role.

Mahalo for your consideration.



Sean Dee
Executive Vice President & Chief Commercial Officer



AIRPORT CONCESSIONAIRES COMMITTEE

Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Committee on Energy, Economic Development
and Tourism
Hawaii State Senate
State Capitol Building
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Hearing: March 16, 2023, Room 229

Re: GM 505 – Nomination of Chris Sadayasu

Dear Chair DeCoite, Vice-Chair Wakai and Honorable Committee Members,

The Airports Concessionaires Committee represents the majority of airport concessions that do business at Hawaii's public airports and all represented unanimously agree to this letter in support.

We support the nomination of Chris Sadayasu as Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

Representatives of our group had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Sadayasu.

During our meeting we were pleased to learn that he agrees with our Committee and what many in Hawaii are saying that we need to attract "...mindful and respectful travelers....that Hawaii is a unique place with a fragile ecosystem, rich host culture and multi-ethnic population..." . We want travelers to understand that Hawaii is "...something unique, special and memorable, and worth investing in terms of vacation."

Given Mr. Sadayasu's vast background and experience including the area of tourism, we believe he is well qualified to serve as Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

We respectfully urge you to support Mr. Sadayasu's nomination. Any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our Government Affairs Liaison, Jim Stone, at 808-223-7810. Mahalo.

TESTIMONY OF
AES

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND
TOURISM
MARCH 16, 2023
12:30 P.M.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 505

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026.

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism:

On behalf of AES, I would like to testify in strong support of the confirmation of Chris Sadayasu to Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

AES shares the state's vision for a 100% clean energy future, and is committed to helping the state responsibly transition to a carbon-free energy future with over 350 megawatts of renewable energy projects across the Hawaiian Islands.

I have known Mr. Sadayasu in various capacities for over two decades. He brings a wealth of experience in Hawai'i's development, tourism, and housing industries, and I can attest to his cooperative and collaborative style, intellect, and good character. His specialized experience will be a valuable asset to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

As a nominee, Mr. Sadayasu is well qualified to fulfill this responsibility given his professional and life experiences, his temperament, and desire to serve. I believe Mr. Sadayasu will do his considerable best to make a better future for all residents of Hawai'i.

For these reasons, we humbly ask you to support GM 505 and confirm Chris Sadayasu's appointment as Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sandra Larsen
Hawai'i Market Business Leader
AES



GM-505

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 1:25:42 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mahealani Cypher	Testifying for Koolau Foundation	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Committee Members:

The Ko`olau Foundation strongly supports Chris Sadayasu for your advise and consent to serve as director of the Hawaii Dept. of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

Our organization is dedicating to perpetuating and preserving Hawaiian cultural sites and practices. We were pleased to work with Chris during his tenure with HCDA, when he was involved with Native Hawaiians in re-establishing an extensive lo`i kalo farm in He`eia. He proved to be dedicated and committed to helping us restore cultural practices while pursuing economic and community benefits of re-opening a large source of poi and other food products on Windward O`ahu.

We were, and are still, very impressed with his capabilities and skills. He will be an asset to the state administration in guiding this important department's future.

We urge your concurrence and passage of this appointment.

Mahalo for considering our mana`o.



HAWAI'I COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
Amplify the Power of Giving

March 15, 2023

The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: GM505

Aloha Chair DeCoite and Members of the Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism:

It is with high regard that I submit this letter of strong support for Governor's Message 505 in consideration and confirmation of Mr. Chris Sadayasu as Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT).

I've known Mr. Sadayasu personally and professionally for more than 15 years and have come to respect so much of what he brings to the table. I've come to know him as a leader of the highest integrity and one of servant leadership. He is a person that can both pay attention to details, but also see the big picture. I know of few people that have his level of work ethic that I believe stems from his humble upbringing in Papaikou, Hawai'i by amazing and incredible parents, whom I've also had the privilege to know.

I got to know Mr. Sadayasu during my tenure as the Director of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands from 2003-2009. At that time, he served as Housing Development Specialist at the Hawai'i Housing Finance & Development Corporation (HHFDC), a position that proved to be extremely important in DHHL's work to accelerate homeownership opportunities for native Hawaiians during our time. Through unconditional collaboration, HHFDC and DHHL formulated a proposal for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs' consideration to relinquish a portion of the ceded lands that was part of OHA's ceded land lawsuit for housing opportunities for native Hawaiians. As a result of OHA's acceptance and further collaboration with Chris' team, DHHL was able to move quickly to receive approximately 1,000 acres of land in Kapolei on the Island of O'ahu, La'iohua on the Island of Hawai'i and Leiali'i on the Island of Maui, much of which had major off-site infrastructure already in place.

As a result of this collaboration, thousands of families received homeownership opportunities within DHHL and rental opportunities on the non-ceded lands that were retained by HHFDC. Nonetheless, these communities were co-developed. Chris played an important role in this work.

Mr. Sadayasu's has proven his ability to lead and be a problem solver within government. Through the collective work of HHFDC and DHHL, along with other private and government (including the legislature) entities, projects like KROC Community Center in Kapolei, major roadway systems, water and sewer distribution systems and public and private facilities were developed in all three communities (Kapolei,

La'iohua and Leiali'i). The beneficiaries were not just native Hawaiians, but the general public as well, as we continue to see the prosperity of these regions continue.

Many leaders can talk about what they want to accomplish, but not all can actually execute. I have experienced first-hand Mr. Sadayasu's ability to execute.

I defer to the committee on whether or not Mr. Sadayasu has the relevant background to lead the DBEDT, but it appears with the recent approval of Dane Wicker as Deputy, there is the beginnings of a strong team. Should they both be confirmed, I look forward to all that they will accomplish together and to working collaboratively with them for the success of the Department and the State.

Mahalo for the opportunity to express my views and appreciate your consideration of Mr. Sadayasu's appointment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Micah A. Kāne". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Micah A. Kāne, CEO
Hawai'i Community Foundation



March 16, 2023

Re: Testimony of Support of Chris J. Sadayasu for his appointment as the Director of the Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism

Aloha, Senators,

The Board of Directors of Kekaha Agriculture Association on Kaua'i, Hawaii, are in full support of the appointment of Chris Sadayasu as the Director of Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

Kekaha Agriculture Association (KAA) is in charge of the management of ADC lands on the westside of Kaua'i, whose members include Kaua'i Shrimp, Corteva, Hartung, Wines of Kauai, and numerous small farmers. We are also proud to have strong community outreach in support of our schools, healthcare, military (PMRF) and cultural programs throughout all of Kaua'i.

We believe that Mr. Sadayasu has the vision to appreciate the growth of ADC programs that affect our mutual goals to a path of success for our farmers that also include our efforts in STEM education, Farm to State development, and, most importantly, helping feed the needy in our community with the Hawaii Food Bank of Kaua'i.

We believe wholeheartedly that Mr. Sadayasu has a focused agenda/commitment to achieve the same goals for all of Hawaii, and will make a positive difference together with a group of his supporters, like KAA, to build a better tomorrow. Our organization stands at the side of Jimmy Nakatani of ADC to work closely with Mr. Sadayasu to achieve optimum success.

We ask for your kind support of his appointment.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael A. Faye". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael A Faye, Manager
Kekaha Agriculture Association
mike@kekahaagriculture.org

**TESTIMONY OF
GARY S. SUGANUMA**

In consideration of G.M. No. 505

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism,
Gubernatorial nominee, Chris Sadayasu

Before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

Thursday, March 16, 2023
12:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 229

Chair DeCoite, Vice-Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of the confirmation of Mr. Chris Sadayasu as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

I have had the pleasure of working alongside and supervising Mr. Sadayasu in the Attorney General's Tax and Charities Division. He is smart, resourceful, hardworking, and someone that I could delegate tasks to and trust that they would get handled the proper way. Mr. Sadayasu also works and collaborates well with others. Given these attributes, together with his previous work experience within several agencies attached to DBEDT, including Hawaii Tourism Authority, Hawaii Community Development Authority, and Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, as well as his experience with various other state and county agencies, I believe Mr. Sadayasu is an excellent candidate to lead DBEDT. If given the opportunity, I know Mr. Sadayasu will give it his all and do a great job serving the best interests of the State by effectively addressing the challenges facing DBEDT.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 505.

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT T. MURAKAMI

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

In consideration of GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 505

Thursday, March 16, 2023
12:30PM Conference Room 229

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION AS THE DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, CHRIS SADAYASU FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 12-07-2026.

Chair DeCoite, Vice-Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message 505 regarding the appointment of Chris Sadayasu to the position of Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. I **STRONGLY SUPPORT** his nomination.

For the past three months, I have had the honor of working with and getting to know Chris Sadayasu in his capacity as the DBEDT Director. From day one, he laid the foundation of an organizational culture of accountability, transparency, and collaboration; values which will serve as the hallmarks of leadership during his tenure. Chris is a highly motivated, conscientious, and collaborative executive who has dedicated his professional career to the service and betterment of our community.

Chris is humble, knows and acknowledges his weaknesses and missteps and has the courage to work hard to improve himself to better serve our community, especially those who are less fortunate. He accomplishes this through a tenacious work ethic, frequently being the first in the office and the last to leave, often heading eagerly to a business or community event. His work ethic is further evidenced by his extremely relevant professional experience serving in numerous roles in DBEDT as chronicled on his resume. His multitude of experience has been vital to flattening his learning curve, allowing him to "hit the ground running".

Chris' strength is as a collaborator. Since his appointment as the director, he has made a concerted effort to meet with community and business stakeholders, the legislature, legislative staff, the offices of the Governor and Lt. Governor, sister agencies, DBEDT's deputy director and the DBEDT leadership team, and most importantly, with as many of the 250+ staff from DBEDT as possible.

Chris is a good person with strong family values. He is grateful for the sacrifices that his family has made that provide him with a strong foundation and opportunities to work for a better life; a life he has dedicated to public service in Hawaii. Chris has more than relevant professional experience to serve as the DBEDT Director, but it is his values that will help him fulfill his oath to serve the people of Hawaii.

As Hawaii's 21st Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations who served during the start of the COVID-19 crisis, I can attest to fact that serving as a Director is about character. The job is about standing up for what is right for the people of Hawaii and honoring the oath we take to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Hawaii. I fully trust that Chris will carry out the oath that he has taken with honor and distinction in his service to the people of Hawaii.

I **WHOLEHEARTEDLY SUPPORT** Chris Sadayasu's nomination for Director of DBEDT. Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify.

March 14, 2023

The Honorable Ms. Lynn DeCoite
Chair, Committee on Energy, Economic Development,
and Tourism, Hawai`i State Senate
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 230
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: GM 505:Nomination of Chris Sadayasu for Director of Department of Business,
Economic Development and Tourism


Dear Senator DeCoite and Members of the Committee:

I write to support the nomination of Chris Sadayasu for Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. I have known Mr. Sadayasu for over 40 years. Born and raised in Hilo, he is the product of a hard-working and very ethical family. He worked for me as a young associate attorney after graduating from the University of Hawai`i Law School. After two years he resigned. Although he had the makings of a good lawyer, Mr. Sadayasu said he preferred to pursue a career in public service rather than the law.

That was over 20 years ago. Since that time Mr. Sadayasu has devoted his career to serving the people of Hawai`i. He has held increasingly responsible positions at Hawai`i Housing Finance and Development Corporation, Hawai`i Community Development Authority, Hawai`i Tourism Authority and the Department of the Attorney General, gaining valuable experience in solving the challenges faced by a number of the agencies that he now supervises.

I have worked with almost all of Mr. Sadayasu's predecessors as Directors of DBEDT over the past 40 plus years, so I know what the job requires. Based on my knowledge of the job's requirements and my experience with Mr. Sadayasu, I know he has the intelligence, integrity, experience and enthusiasm to do an outstanding job as Director of DBEDT.

Very truly yours,



William W.L. Yuen

Testimony of
Eugene Tian

To the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism

March 16, 2023, 12:30 PM
10:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of
GM 505
Confirmation of Director,
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee.

I am pleased to submit this testimony in strong support of the nomination of Chris Sadayasu as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.

During the past few months working with Chris, I found him to be very knowledgeable in Hawaii tourism industry, affordable housing, Hawaii Law, and the economy. His vision in developing Hawaii's economy is practical and consistent with the objectives of the administration. Chris is a very honest, dedicated, diligent, and energetic individual. He respects the people he works with and fair in dealings with people. He works and handles things very efficiently. I am happy to have Chris as the leader for DBEDT.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

LATE

Testimony of
Anthony J.H. Ching
HCDA Executive Director (*retired*)

Before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism

Relating to Governor's Message 505
Consideration and Confirmation as the Director of Department of Business, Economic
Development & Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee – *Chris Sadayasu*

Chair DeCoite and members:

My name is Anthony Ching, State of Hawaii retiree and former Executive Director of the Hawaii Community Development (2007-2015) testifying in **SUPPORT** of the nomination of Chris Sadayasu as Director of the State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT).

My support for the confirmation of Chris Sadayasu as Director of DBEDT is based on the three factors.

1. Chris knows DBEDT. He has recently worked in positions of responsibility with three agencies which are attached to the DBEDT (e.g., HCDA, HHFDC and HTA). With that type of experience networking with DBEDT and attached agency staff, Chris is no stranger to the department and is well prepared to implement his vision for advancing the State's tourism, energy, stadium, housing and business/economic development programs.
2. Chris has the qualifications to lead the DBEDT. His private and public sector work experience in housing, development, tourism, asset management, has him well prepared to lead DBEDT and to add the power of his office to address the many challenges facing the State of Hawaii.
3. I know Chris. In 2010, I hired Chris to initially serve as the HCDA Compliance Assurance and Community Outreach Officer. In 2012, I tapped Chris to serve as

the HCDA Asset Manager. In all that he took on, Chris did well. Of note is that Chris led the effort to transfer the HCDA Kakaako Makai holdings to the OHA.

Subject to my travel home from Portland on the day of the hearing, I hope to further clarify my support for confirmation of Chris Sadayasu in person. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/11/2023 8:09:27 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Burt Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Dear Chair Decoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support of GM No. 505 for Chris Sadayasu’s nomination to serve as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

I’ve known Mr. Sadayasu for only a short time as the Director for DBEDT. But even during my short time working with Mr. Sadasyasu, I’ve found him to be very gracious, positive, and supportive of the work we’ve done in the Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office (HBDEO). He has helped to bring focus and insight into the operations of HBDEO and contributed to the efficiency of the office. He is an excellent choice for Director of DBEDT and he has Hawaii’s best interest at heart.

For these and other reasons, I strongly urge Mr. Sadayasu’s confirmation as Director of DBEDT.

March 12, 2023

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Honorable Members
Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Hawai'i State Senate
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Re: Governor's Message No. 505 appointing Chris Sadayasu as Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and Members of the Committee,

I would like to express my **support** for GM 505 relating to Mr. Chris Sadayasu's consideration and confirmation as Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

I have worked with Mr. Sadayasu in his varying capacities while working for the State and for the City and County of Honolulu and most recently since his nomination to the position in my capacity as a Stadium Authority member. He has always been open to dialogue where a variety of viewpoints are shared and being an active participant in difficult conversations. He has demonstrated his commitment to educating himself about the issues and I have always known Chris to be hard working, fair, and knowledgeable about the tasks at hand. He has familiarity with both government processes as well as private best practices, which can help serve to benefit DBEDT and the State, and I know he is committed to the well-being of Hawai'i and its people.

I believe Chris is a qualified nominee and would humbly ask for your favorable consideration of his nomination to this position.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Morioka', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Brennon T. Morioka, PhD, PE

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 7:12:37 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julie Tulang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chris J. Sadayasu was born and raised on the island of Hawai`i. He comes from a family who has been very committed community advocates on Hawai`i Island. He is a proud graduate of Hilo High School, Claremont McKenna College, and the William S. Richardson School of Law.

Sadayasu has over seventeen years of experience as an expert in economic development in DBEDT's various attached agencies including the Hawaii Tourism Authority, Hawaii Community Development Authority, and Hawai`i Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

I encourage you to support Chris J. Sadayasu for the DBEDT Director position, he will continue to work diligently for Hawai`i.

Deborah Zimmerman
President
New Millennium Meetings, Inc.
99-1406 Halawa Heights Rd
Aiea, HI 96701
808-202-0044

March 13, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my full support of Chris Sadayasu for Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

I worked closely with Chris for the entire year of 2017. In his role with the Hawaii Tourism Authority Chris was assigned to help oversee the sales and marketing efforts for the Hawaii Convention Center. I was part of a contract team tasked with assisting him in his new responsibilities.

Chris was a quick study, intellectually curious, extremely competent, and detail oriented. He brought great enthusiasm to our work. He was a humble leader and extremely likeable. He was confident in what he knew, and freely admitted what he needed to learn. Moreover, he wasn't afraid to acknowledge when he made a mistake and was quick to share credit for success.

In my current work I am involved with attracting offshore meetings and conventions to the Hawaiian Islands. My personal interest is attracting events which offer broad economic impact beyond the tourism infrastructure. When I heard that Chris had been appointed the DBEDT Director I was extremely excited as Chris understands this type of strategic conferencing. I hope to work with him and his team on meetings related to renewable energy, agriculture/natural products, urban revitalization and more.

For a person who gets things done with teamwork and aloha, please confirm Chris to oversee DBEDT. He is a gift to any organization!

Sincerely,

Deborah Zimmerman

**Testimony of Catherine P. Awakuni Colón
Before the Senate Committee on
Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Thursday, March 16, 2023
12:30 PM
Conference Room 229 and Videoconference**

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

On Governor's Message No. 505, Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, Chris Sadayasu, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026.

Chair DeCoite and Members of the Committee:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón and I am testifying my personal capacity in **support** of the appointment of Chris Sadayasu to serve as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT).

I have known Mr. Sadayasu for more than 25 years, as we attended law school, graduated and took the Hawaii bar exam together. Over the years, I have watched Mr. Sadayasu gain experience at different state and city agencies that will greatly assist him in his new role as DBEDT Director. Given my similar experience, I can confirm that being promoted to lead a department after having served in the department in various roles provides a nominee with useful knowledge and insights that assist with a smooth transition. Over the years of watching Mr. Sadayasu in different roles, I have observed him to be humble, hardworking, ethical, and caring. I am certain that Mr. Sadayasu will bring a passionate yet collaborative approach to his work in leading DBEDT.

Mr. Sadayasu has already demonstrated himself to be a highly productive and effective member of Governor Green's administration, and I respectfully request that you recommend approval of his nomination as the Director of DBEDT.

Thank you for the opportunity to support G.M. No. 505.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Hearing EET 03-16-23. Thursday 16march 2023, 1230pm
GM 505

Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business,
Economic Development & Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU

Aloha Chair DeCoite and Vice Chair Wakai:

Regarding GM 505, consideration on DBEDT Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS
SADAYASU.

I strongly support the confirmation of nominee Chris Sadayasu.

As an architect and consultant for businesses in Hawaii, and partner in the development
of recreational and community resources, I have had interactions with nominee
Sadayasu in the past, in his service as asset manager at HCDA and more recently at
HTA.

Chris has always been knowledgeable, reasonable, and a strong advocate of the goals
and best interests of the State of Hawaii.

Through his experience at various State organizations over the last 20 years, Chris has
a thorough understanding of the mission and programs under DBEDT is a great choice
as its Director.

I am speaking as an individual and not for any specific organization.

With respect.
Mahalo,
Stephen H. Yuen, AIA
stevey@g70.design

Oahu resident, architect and principal at Group 70, and partner at Honokea, a developer
of recreational and community resources, including surfing.

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 7:47:21 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cynthia Johiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I had the privilege to work with Mr. Sadayasu for approximately one year and a half. During that time, I was very impressed with his intellect, his ability to learn (he had no subject matter knowledge when he joined our section), his cooperative nature, and his willingness to assist others with overflow work. Mr. Sadayasu was pleasant and was a creative thinker. As his resume demonstrates, Mr. Sadayasu has the credentials to amply fill the position of director of DBEDT and do the job well.

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/14/2023 6:18:26 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marcia Sakai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Chair; Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair, Honorable Members

Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and the Environment

I am writing in support of Chris Sadayasu for appointment as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

He is highly experienced for the role, having served with the Hawaii Tourism Authority, the Hawaii Community Development Authority and the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation. I believe he will serve the needs of the State well.

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/14/2023 8:50:27 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglas Shinsato	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Senators and Committee Members:

I support the nomination of Chris Sadayasu as Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism. Chris has the experience and knowledge to leverage Hawaii's current strengths to develop and implement strategies to integrate education, jobs creation and sustainability for the people of our State.

Please confirm Chris for the good of our future.



2021 (September - December)

March 14, 2023

2021 (Sept-Dec)	2021	2022	2023	2024
Managing Dir - 30%	Managing Dir - 30%	Managing Dir - 30%	Managing Dir - 30%	Managing Dir - 30%
Associate Dir - 100%	Associate Dir - 100%	Associate Dir - 100%	Associate Dir - 100%	Associate Dir - 100%
Managing Dir - 35%	Managing Dir - 35%	Managing Dir - 35%	Managing Dir - 35%	Managing Dir - 35%
Managing Dir - 35%	Managing Dir - 35%	Managing Dir - 35%	Managing Dir - 35%	Managing Dir - 35%

Aloha Senate Selection Committee,

Please accept this as testimony in support of Chris Sadayasu appointment as Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

I worked closely with Chris for 3 years as he was our Brand Manager when we were the contractor for Global MCI from 2016-2019.

Chris was extremely collaborative and competent. He was a humble leader and freely admitted what he needed to learn. He always was quick to share credit for success and was a most supportive manager during some difficult and challenging times at HTA.

Chris represents the best of the upcoming generation of leadership in government and I have confidence that he will lead and oversee DBEDT in the spirit of 'ohana and aloha.

Mahalo,

Priscilla Texeira
Principal

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/14/2023 12:19:29 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Kent	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Chris Sadayasu's nomination. I worked with Mr. Sadayasu only one time, and it was many years ago. I am writing because I appreciated everything Mr. Sadayasu brought to that effort and still remember my respect for his work and approach. Although I have not worked with him since, that experience stood out for me and I expect that he approaches all his work in the same way that he approached our work. That work ethic is just what we need in our leaders.

Elizabeth Kent

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/14/2023 2:57:52 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janice Takahashi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Chair

The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism:

I am pleased to **support G.M. 505** nominating Chris Sadayasu as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT).

Chris and I worked together at the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation. He utilized his legal background in real estate to significantly contribute to our efforts to facilitate the development of affordable housing. He was a valued member of the development team who exhibited an unwavering commitment to address Hawaii's housing crisis; an attribute that he has retained to this day.

Chris' educational and career paths have provided him with relevant expertise to shoulder the responsibilities of this important position. Moreover, his willingness to serve, positive attitude, high energy level, and local values make him an invaluable asset to DBEDT and the State of Hawaii.

I respectfully request the Committee's advise and consent of the nomination of Mr. Chris Sadayasu.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/14/2023 3:18:36 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
stephanie iona	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Full support of Chris Sadayasu for the position of Director of DBEDT. Mr. Sadayasu is doing his best to navigate through the process of this department, and with his approach to keep his team engaged, having an open mind to others opinions, and has the best interest of Hawaii and its citizens in what he brings to the position. Ask for your support of his appointment. With Aloha, Stephanie Iona, Waimea Kauai

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/14/2023 5:49:38 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tammy Kaneshiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and EET Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Chris Sadayasu for the Director of the Department of Business and Economic Development.

I have known Chris for over ten years. I have had the privilege of working with Chris while he was the Charities Program Administrator in the Tax and Charities Division at the Department of the Attorney General.

We were so fortunate that Chris was already a seasoned and experienced administrator when he came to us. He definitely made the program more effective and efficient. He is exceptional at team building and morale boosting. He is a quick study and tirelessly devotes himself to his work and his team. Chris is able to complete complex tasks in a timely manner and easily manages difficult situations and people. He thrives on problem solving and accomplishing challenging projects.

Chris is also smart, witty, patient, down to earth, energetic, creative, persistent and works well with varied populations.

Chris shared with me that being the Director of DBED is his dream job and he continues to express how much he loves his work and the people at DBED. His experience and background clearly reflect his dedication and commitment to his Department.

In my humble opinion, Chris has the attributes both professionally and personally that make for an extraordinary Director. Chris would definitely be an invaluable asset to DBED and the State of Hawaii.

Thank you.

Tammy Kaneshiro

March 14, 2023

Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
and Committee Members
Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
State Capitol, Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: GM 505
Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee Chris J. Sadayasu as Director of the
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism;
Testimony in Strong Support

Dear Chair DeCoite and Members of the Committee:

I am respectfully writing in strong support of gubernatorial nominee Chris J. Sadayasu as Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT).

I had the pleasure of working closely with Mr. Sadayasu at the Department of the Attorney General as his colleague when he served as the Charities Program Administrator. As the administrator, Mr. Sadayasu brought fresh ideas and perspectives, proposed innovative solutions to address reoccurring old issues, and led with the innate ability to inspire others to take on the same challenges. Mr. Sadayasu also recognized that many problems are best addressed when done in collaboration with others and worked relentlessly to foster constructive working relationships with other state and federal agencies. For example, Mr. Sadayasu partnered with agencies to expand the education outreach program, engaged in multistate enforcement effort, and championed discussions with Hawaii's leading nonprofit organization to better understand and address the needs of Hawaii nonprofits. Most of all, Mr. Sadayasu's energetic and proactive can-do attitude was a tremendous asset for the Charities Program where he exhibited his remarkable ability to get things done.

In sum, Mr. Sadayasu is a uniquely qualified nominee who possesses a depth of institutional knowledge, strong conviction, and absolute passion to serve the people of Hawaii.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to submit my personal testimony in strong support of GM 505.

Very truly yours,



Eunice Park

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/14/2023 8:20:15 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laura Maeshiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support for CHRIS SADAYASU as Director for DBEDT. I first met Chris in December 2021 while he was working for the Department of the Attorney General, as the Charities Program Administrator. Although we had different job duties, we worked in the same division, and I got to know him.

Chris was a college athlete. He played tennis for Claremont McKenna College. He did not share this on his resume, but I am not surprised because as outspoken as he is, he is very modest in highlighting his own achievements. It is noteworthy here because Chris carries with him the traits that athletes possess – he is an assertive go-getter who knows how to motivate others, set goals and work tirelessly to meet them.

We had many talks about various subjects that co-workers/friends who spent their career in government have. We talked about government’s role and policies in current events in all areas. He is very passionate about his work while at HTA. He always stressed the importance of maintaining Hawaii’s position as a premier destination, and of diversifying our economy. He liked to brainstorm ideas, which made for lively and thought-provoking discussions. Chris truly cares about our state and is ALWAYS thinking of how it can be better for its residents.

Not only does Chris have the government background and experience for this position, he has a positive mindset, aptitude and grit to handle the diverse issues facing DBEDT. And, like an athlete, he will set goals on what is best for Hawaii, and take the requisite action to achieve them. He would be an asset to our state as the DBEDT Director.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony in support.

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/14/2023 9:16:43 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jadie Goo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support for the confirmation of Chris Sadayasu for Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism. I have had the pleasure of working closely with Chris for over five years when he worked at the Hawai'i Tourism Authority. Chris was a thoughtful colleague, an excellent communicator and reliable team player who is always willing to lead, listen and lend a helping hand. His humble and collaborative approach makes him a pleasure to work with and helps to foster a positive work environment among team members. Chris is also a quick study and problem solver with exceptional analytical skills. In summary, Chris has the necessary skills, knowledge, experience, and drive that are essential for success in leadership. Mahalo for your consideration.

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/14/2023 10:17:03 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elise Amemiya	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair DeCoite, Vice-Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee,

I respectfully submit this testimony in **support** of the Governor's nominee, Chris Sadayasu, for Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. I am testifying in my personal and individual capacity.

I have known Chris for over 20 years when we were students at the William S. Richardson School of Law together. More recently, I have worked closely with Chris as a Deputy AG assigned to DBEDT. He is approachable, easy to work with, and open to advice. I find Chris to be smart, decisive, and extremely competent. He is eager and enthusiastic about his role as Director and brings energy and fresh ideas to DBEDT. Accordingly, he would be a valuable asset to the State of Hawaii.

I firmly support his nomination.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 6:10:35 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laci Goshi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of GM 505 appointing Chris Sadayasu as Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. I've worked with Mr. Sadayasu for a number of years and firmly believe that he will continue to be an asset to the State in this position. He is a dedicated and passionate public servant with the knowledge and skillset to lead the Department. Thank you for the opportunity to share my strong support of GM 505 appointing Mr. Sadayasu to this important role for the State of Hawaii.

TESTIMONY OF
KEITH A. REGAN

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023, 12:30 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 229

GM505

Honorable Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism, I am providing testimony in support of GM505, the confirmation of Chris Sadayasu as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

I've had the honor of working with Mr. Sadayasu for the past five years in various capacities. His combination of diverse work experience, degrees in economics and law, and positive attitude are excellent attributes that he will bring to the position of director. Chris has a strong work ethic and is committed to the success of each organization he has been a part of over the years.

Chris' background at the Hawaii Tourism Authority, Hawaii Community Development Authority, Aloha Tower Development Corporation, and the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation will serve him well as he navigates the many opportunities to strengthen and diversify our State's economy. In this role, the director must have a wide field of vision, must take into consideration all information and data, and must be sensible but, at the same time, creative. Chris has proven throughout his career that he is able to embody these approaches which establishes him as a capable asset in this role.

Finally, I have had the opportunity to observe Mr. Sadayasu in his current role as Director. He has demonstrated his ability to be inquisitive, flexible, and to provide good guidance to his team. He has a firm grasp of the department's issues and will help lead the department forward.

For these reasons, I humbly ask you to please support the confirmation of Chris Sadayasu as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Sincerely,

Keith A. Regan
Honolulu, Hawaii

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 7:36:08 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Oku	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Sen.DeCoite, Vice Chair Sen. Wakai, and members of the Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism.

I support the consideration and confirmation of Chris Sadayasu to serve as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

TESTIMONY

of

THEODORE E. LIU

Submitted for consideration and confirmation of
Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU,
as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism,
for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-2026.

As the former Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) from 2003 to 2010, I support your confirmation of Chris Sadayasu as director of the department.

I overlapped with Chris for my entire tenure at DBEDT, which included his working at several of the department's attached agencies that are again critical to the strategic needs of Hawaii's economy: housing and development. In that capacity, I had extensive substantive interactions with Chris.

Since then, Chris has broadened his government experience to include work in tourism and at the County level, both exposures that I believe has supplemented his skill-set. For a variety of historical reasons, DBEDT has far-flung responsibilities, both in its core functions and at its attached agencies. More than any other past Director nominee, including myself, Chris comes to this position with knowledge of and experience within the department.

In my work with him, I found Chris to be intelligent, energetic and enthusiastic, and committed improving the lives of Hawaii's residents through economic development. I believe the department's performance over the recent past calls for more proactive and energetic leadership.

A few weeks ago, I saw on news coverage an interaction between Chris and a Senate committee on a matter of importance to the visitor industry. I attribute his possibly premature declaration, as unfortunate as it was, to Chris's enthusiasm to tackle the problem. Again, even attempts at problem-solving should be what the department's director is about.

Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions.

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 7:54:51 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janine Udui	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senator DeCoite and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of Chris Sadayasu's confirmation as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT).

I worked with Chris while he was the Charities Program Administrator with the Department of the Attorney General from August 2021 through December 2022, and am writing in my personal capacity. Working with Chris, I observed his enthusiasm for public service and commitment to the State. He took on a variety of difficult challenges without complaint and helped make the program stronger. Chris is able to work collaboratively with a variety of stakeholders to achieve a satisfactory outcome for everyone involved. He is generous with his time and ideas and is a consummate professional. Anyone who meets Chris can tell within minutes how passionate he is about Hawaii and how hard he will work to improve the lives of everyone living here. In short, he has the necessary experience, temperament, and dedication needed to lead DBEDT.

For these and other reasons, I strongly urge his confirmation as DBEDT Director.

Very truly yours,

Janine Udui

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 9:30:22 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nathan Chee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair DeCoite and Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of the nomination of Chris Sadayasu for the position of Director of DBEDT. I worked with Chris while he was the charities administrator at the the Department of Attorney General. While there I observed Chris to be very passionate in his role as a regulator of charitable organizations. During his time there, Chris increased compliance of charitable organizations through greater enforcement of registration requirements. He also increased education outreach to the public and charitable organizations. In addition to being a dedicated public servant, Chris is a proud parent to two children and is committed to providing them with the best opportunities to succeed in life.

Respectfully,

Nathan Chee

Marlene Hiraoka
Honolulu, Hawaii

GM505

Gubernatorial Nominee, Chris Sadayasu
Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai and members of the committee:

I am writing in strong support of Mr. Chris Sadayasu as Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT). Mr. Sadayasu has extensive knowledge and experience in the public sector. Since his appointment to DBEDT by Governor Josh Green, he has demonstrated his commitment to and enthusiasm for public service in a wide range of areas such as housing, development and tourism.

I look forward to working with Mr. Sadayasu and his leadership in supporting DBEDT's mission.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Governor's Message 505, Mr. Chris Sadayasu, Director, DBEDT.

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 10:46:05 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jonathan K Kukea-Shultz	Testifying for Kakoo Oiwi	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members.

On behalf of Kakoo Oiwi. We Support the confirmation of Chris Sadayasu to lead HDEBT. I have had the privilege to work with Chris when he was at HCDA, as the Executive Director for Kakoo Oiwi in Heeia Oahu, it was important to have a state representative/advocate that understood and was willing to work with and support our community. Heeia is strong and diverse with multiple Voices in our community, Chris was a stabilizing and consensus creating force that helped us create the dream of our Kupuna to see functioning, Ahupuaa and healthy community. He was able through coordination of policy, procedure, partnership and rules to support the development of Heeia and have moved all of us closer to our Kupuna's dream. We often hear that the state doesn't do anything for our community, because of Chris I know that belief is wrong. Chris was one of our State partners to really advocate for the enhancement and development opportunities of Heeia. I can say today that without his support and his advocacy with the restoration of Heeia we wouldn't be in the positive direction we are in today. If Mr Sadayasu is given the opportunity to lead HDEBT I believe he will lead HDEBT in creating many more ways that our government will be able to support the intersection of Community and Buisness which benefits all of us. Thank you for your time and we look forward to working with Chris Sadayasu in the future.

aloha,

J. Kanekoa Kukea-Shultz

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 11:02:24 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sandi Kato-Klutke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Requesting support of Chris Sadayasu as Director of DBEDT. Chris has been working non stop for DBEDT and the people of Hawaii

Thank you

Sandi Kato-Klutke

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 11:16:35 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Arthur Taniguchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Arthur Taniguchi and am testifying via email in support of Chris Sadayasu's appointment as Director of DBEDT. I have known Chris for many years and have found him to be very knowledgeable, approachable and aware of issues affecting all of the islands in the State. Although i'm presently retired, I previously served as President of the Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawaii, Big Island Business Council, as well as Chair of the Island of Hawaii Visitors Bureau. I retired as Senior Vice President and Regional Manager of Bank of Hawaii on the Island of Hawaii. Chris will serve us well in the capacity of Director and i wholeheartedly support his appointment to this very important position.

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 11:59:49 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
L. Richard Fried, Jr.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As chair of the Hawaii Tourism Authority for six years, I dealt with Chris Sadayasu on a regular basis in his position as a Market Manager and found him to have the utmost integrity, be a quick learner, hard worker and possess the ability to deal with others in a professional manner. He was able to develop and implement innovative strategies which resulted in significant improvements in our business model. I can confidently say that he possesses the skills and experience required for this position. As lead on bringing the LA RAMs to HI for an exhibition football game in 2019 he managed an event, which sold out Aloha Stadium, I believe the last sell-out, and coordinated a variety of well received community events. He also oversaw the area of the world HTA calls Oceania, which includes primarily Australia and New Zealand. They, under Chris's leadership, provided the most incoming tourists ever to HI in 2019.

As a lawyer himself, Chris has been trained to weigh all aspects of an issue and arrive at a reasoned response. He understands the importance of communication, stakeholder engagement and building partnerships.

Chris understands and is committed to the critical role that economic development and tourism plays in our community in terms of economic benefits, job creation and community wellbeing.

His experience, energy and integrity make him an excellent choice for the position of Director of Business, Economic Development and Tourism and I am confident that he will serve the State wisely.

Rick Fried

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 12:31:29 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caroline Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism,

I am writing in support of GM 505 for Gubernatorial Nominee Chris Sadayasu to serve as the Director for the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

I worked with Mr. Sadayasu when he was a Brand Manager for the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA). He made positive contributions to the HTA, especially in the areas of Sports, the Oceania major market area, the Hawai'i Tourism Conference, and the Hawai'i Tourism Summit. With his background in law, previous experience at DBEDT, HTA, and the City and County of Honolulu, strategic thinking, and enthusiasm, he will be an effective DBEDT Director and look out for the best interest of the State and the people of Hawai'i.

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/15/2023 12:39:19 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
darren ueki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the nomination of Chris Sadayasu to lead the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT).

Mr. Sadayasu has served in multiple positions within State and County government after practicing law for three years in the private sector. The various positions he served in government have helped prepare him for the wide range of responsibilities required to oversee DBEDT.

I had the pleasure of working with Mr. Sadayasu for seven years at the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation. During this time he worked his way up to the position of Development Specialist III (project/team manager) with his attention to detail, ability to listen, and the willingness stand up and defend his position when needed. These are just a few of the many positive attributes that Mr. Sadayasu will bring to the table as the Director of DBEDT.

His dedication to government service is evident based on his resume and given the opportunity to lead the Department, I am confident that Mr. Sadayasu will prove himself to be a huge asset to Governor Green's cabinet,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Darren Ueki

March 15, 2023

Honorable Chair Lynn Decoite, Vice Chair Glenn Wakai
& Members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

Re: Testimony in Support of G.M. 505

Chair Decoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism:

I write to express my strong support for G.M. 505 and the confirmation of Chris Sadayasu as Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.

In my humble opinion, Chris is well-qualified for the role having gained diverse experience in numerous government roles which will serve him well. Prior positions within DBEDT attached agencies, as Brand Manager at Hawaii Tourism Authority, Asset Manager for the Hawaii Community Development Authority, Development Manager for the Aloha Tower Development Corporation, will clearly help him to understand the needs and responsibilities of the department.

I had the chance to work with Chris on a daily basis when I was serving as Chief Operating Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority. He was a collaborative team member and he made positive contributions to our efforts to effectuate HTA's Strategic Plan, balancing the need to manage our destination (our home) while also serving the function of educating and welcoming our visitors. In that role, Chris interacted with a diverse range of stakeholders, locally and outside of Hawai'i, thus he understands how to communicate with diverse constituencies. Moreover, due to his extensive government experience, Chris is well-versed in state government processes, including procurement processes which are key to effectively managing and improving government operations.

As DBEDT's Director, Chris will lead and represent the agency. His approachable, collaborative, and transparent demeanor will ensure the department is responsive to the needs and concerns of government and external stakeholders.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Randy Baldemor
Executive Vice President



Davies Pacific Center 1250
841 Bishop Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 USA

LATE

TELEPHONE 1 (808) 528-4050
WEBSITE www.omnitrakgroup.com

March 15, 2023

Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

Subject: Support – GM 505, Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU, for a term to expire at noon on 12-07-26

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Honorable Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of Chris Sadayasu's nomination to be Director of the Hawai'i Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. Chris brings important diverse and relevant experience in tourism, law, urban development, and housing that represent important components of economic development. Further, having been born on Hawai'i Island, he is aware of the need to address economic and tourism issues from both the O'ahu and Neighbor Island perspectives.

During the time that I have known him, Chris has demonstrated that he is a good listener who is enthusiastic about finding new solutions to some of Hawai'i's most persistent economic challenges. He has also proven to be a dedicated, ethical, and responsive public servant who is fully committed to building a better Hawai'i. As a Hawai'i-born entrepreneur, I feel that Chris understands the challenges of small business, their importance in job creation and economic diversification, and that he will do his utmost to facilitate a robust recovery from Covid-19 and thriving future for small business.

Mr. Sadayasu's steady leadership style and his commitment to building a stronger economy where all can benefit, make him well suited for this appointment. As a Hawai'i-born small business owner, I am very pleased to support Chris Sadayasu to be Hawai'i's Director of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

Mahalo,

Pat Loui

Hon. Patricia M. Loui

LATE

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 4:02:15 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
R. Scott Simon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony by: R. Scott Simon, P.E., Esq. (inactive), and small business founder/owner.

Testimony in Support of GM 505: Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Director, Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT), Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRIS SADAYASU.

I strongly support Chris Sadayasu's confirmation as Director of the Dept. of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT). Having known Chris for about 27 years, I believe his integrity, broad experience, education in law and business, and commitment to public service make him a highly qualified nominee. Chris has served in division administrator and manager roles most recently in the Dept. of the Attorney General, the Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA), the City & County of Honolulu, and Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA). These varied leadership roles provide excellent background for the wide range of oversight responsibility held by the Director of DBEDT.

Chris and I were classmates at the William S. Richardson School of Law, where he started building his reputation for hard work, preparation, and care for others. While many from our class have chosen careers in the private sector and some have relocated out-of-state, Chris is one of the standout few from our class who have dedicated themselves to taking on leadership roles in Hawaii's vital public sector. As a Hawaii resident and taxpayer, I am glad that someone of Chris' professional caliber is willing to lead DBEDT through the opportunities and challenges before this important state department.

For the above reasons, I strongly support GM 505. Thank you for your consideration.

LATE

GM-505

Submitted on: 3/16/2023 10:32:52 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/16/2023 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
james pirtle	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I opose this bill. The legislature is not lawfully elected thus does not have the authority to enact laws and bills. All actions are treason against the United States of America.